NEWS RELEASE



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Date: April 18, 2005 **District:** 8- San Bernardino

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FREEWAY CLOSURES CONTINUE AS WORK PROGRESSES ON CONNECTOR RAMP

RIVERSIDE – Beginning today (4/18) and continuing through Friday (4/22), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will close a segment of State Route 91 and Interstate 215, as the two freeways form the interchange with State Route 60. The closures are part of continued work on the 'flyover' connector ramps that make of the new interchange construction at the 60/91/215 Freeway Interchange Project.

During this week, motorists can expect nighttime closures typically from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. the next day along SR 60 and I-215 in the area of the interchange. Detours will be available to direct motorists through the construction area.

• State Route 91 - Beginning Monday, April. 18 through Friday, April 22, all eastbound lanes of the State Route 91 Freeway will be closed from just before the interchange between State Route 60 and the Interstate 215 freeways to just after the interchange, a distance of approximately 800 feet. The closures will occur on weeknights from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m. the next day.

Motorists who normally travel along the eastbound SR91 are advised to use the southbound I-215 in order to detour the closure. Motorists can then use the Blaine St. exit to come back and continue northbound on I-215.

On Tuesday, April 19, the westbound lanes of State Route 91 will be closed just before the interchange between the SR91 and SR60 Interchange. Motorists will be directed to use the connector to the westbound SR60 and exit at Main or Market streets in order to come back and rejoin the westbound 91 freeway.

This closure is called in order to build metal and wooden falsework around existing freeway-to-freeway 'flyover' connector columns to support the future lanes of the

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connector. This sweeping connector ramp will be supported by 26 columns, which range in varying heights up to more than 70 feet.

• State Route 60 – On Tuesday, Feb. 1, all lanes of the eastbound SR60 will be closed at the 60/91/215 Interchange. Motorists are advised to detour the closure by taking the connector ramp to the westbound SR91 and exit at Mission Inn. Then turn left on Mission Inn, go under the freeway and come back on the eastbound SR91 and then transition to the southbound Interstate 215, which is also known as the eastbound SR60.

These closures are part of a three-year effort to rebuild the interchange between the 60, 91 and 215 freeways. This interchange, which carries more than 313,000 vehicles each day, serves as a major commercial and tourist gateway between San Diego and the Riverside/San Bernardino attractions of Palm Springs and Big Bear. Construction on the 60/91/215 Freeway Improvement Project began last February and is expected to be completed in late 2007.

For project updates, call Caltrans directly at 1-866-60-91-215. Photographs of the construction process are frequently updated and can be viewed at http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8/6091215/6091215project_pics_pg.htm. Planned lane closures for the entire project are updated weekly and can be viewed by accessing the Web site http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist8/6091215/schedule.htm.





Iron workers for Anderson Drilling, Inc. perform final connections as they scale a rebar cage that will support one of the 26 concrete columns for future northwest connector ramp at the 60/91/215 Project

Motorists are advised to always drive with caution around any freeway construction and closure area. Remember to always be alert, be safe, and **SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE.**